

REMARKS

The Restriction Requirement of December 5, 2007 has been carefully studied. In response thereto, Applicant elects group I, drawn to an article and as a single disclosed species elect fibres, an aromatic polyamide-imide as the thermally stable polymer and a polyethersulfone as the thermoplastic polymer, support being derived from claims 2 and 3, for example. In addition, it is seen that new claim 21 is directed to the elected invention and the elected species. It is understood that the election of species is provisional for search purposes, and if the search does not uncover any references which can be embodied in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103, the search will be extended to the full scope of Applicant's elected invention.

As for the propriety of the restriction requirement, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, noting that the only difference between claims 1, 17 and 18 is that claim 1 is directed to an article comprising fibres and/or fibrids comprising a blend of two different polymers whereas claims 17 and 18 are directed to the fibre and fibrid respectively. Consequently, if claim 1 directed to an article is found to be allowable then it would necessarily follow that claims to the fibre and fibrid would also be allowable. Accordingly, subject to the results of the search, Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement.

It is further noted that the claims are amended so as to employ generally acceptable patent language rather than the European style claims. In addition, claim 19 a "use" claim is cancelled in favor of claim 20 which is directed to electrical installation comprising an article according to claim 1.

In view of this response to the restriction requirement, an early action on the merits of the application is courteously requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/I. William Millen/

I. William Millen, Reg. No. 19,544
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

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